

DUTY ON RAW COTTON

SENATE VOTES FOR IT-12 TO 19.

DEMOCRATIC DIFFERENCES.

Debate on General Party Policy With Reference to Tariff Taxation. Bacon Against Vest and Jones. Stewart Supports Georgia.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 8.—By the decisive vote of 42 to 15, the Senate today adopted an amendment to the tariff bill placing raw cotton, the great product of the South, on the dutiable list, at 20 per cent. ad valorem. It is the first time in the history of tariff legislation that a duty on cotton has been incorporated in a bill. The amendment was proposed by Mr. Bacon (Democrat), of Georgia, on his individual responsibility, and without the approval of the Finance Committee, which thus far had been requisite to the success of any amendment, except a minor one, which went through by default.

The amendment led to a spirited debate, Democratic senators disclosing a wide difference of views, and at times exchanging sharp personal criticisms. On the final vote, six Democrats—Messrs. Bacon and Clay, of Georgia; McEnery, of Louisiana; McLaurin and Tillman, of South Carolina, and Rawlins, of Utah—voted with the Republicans for the Bacon amendment, while the negative vote was solidly Democratic, with one exception—that of Mr. Kyle (O'polis).

The debate on cotton took up most of the day, and but little progress was made on the bill. Early in the day the sugar schedule was passed, and the agriculturists again took up. Less than two pages were disposed of during the day. The paragraph on cotton went over, but the balance of the agricultural schedule, up to and including paragraph 28, was agreed to as reported, all amendments, except that of Mr. Bacon, being rejected.

When the tariff bill was taken up at 12:30 P. M., Mr. Allison, of Iowa, requested that the sugar schedule be passed, stating that it would be considered tomorrow. The agricultural schedule being next in order, a number of amendments were offered by Democratic senators, but all were voted down until Mr. Bacon offered his amendment, to be known as paragraph 25-12, placing a duty of 20 per cent. ad valorem on raw cotton.

The House was not in session to-day.

MR. BACON'S ARGUMENT.

Mr. Bacon said the omission of this article from the dutiable list was a violation of the principle of the Democratic platform, that tariff taxation should be so imposed as to discriminate against some articles. The tariff as a whole fell like a dead weight on the producer of cotton, raising the price of all articles essential to his use, and yet of one article of production—raw cotton—the was "left in the lurch." Last year the statistics showed that 550,000 pounds of cotton were imported into the United States, valued at \$300,000. The arrivals of foreign cotton were increasing constantly. Mr. Bacon said he addressed himself particularly to his Democratic associates.

What should cotton be excluded from the benefits of a revenue duty, if all other agricultural products were to have the benefit of such duties? Under the rule of expediency, it would be a unwise course to put duty on cotton.

Mr. Platt (Republican), of Connecticut, who was in charge of the bill pending Mr. Allison's absence, indicated that he would not vote for the amendment, and Mr. Chandler (Republican), of New Hampshire, added: "We are just dying to support the Senator's amendment."

Mr. Clifton (Democrat), of Texas, said the amendment would increase the price of cotton. According to the Georgia Senator (Mr. Bacon), there would be no diminution of the importation of Egyptian cotton, so that the effect of the new legislation would be to reduce the price of cotton, with taking away the competition from foreign cotton.

Mr. Clifton said it was impossible to increase the price of cotton by a tariff, and that it was necessary to find a market for the surplus of American cotton, as was now the case in Liverpool, or in any other foreign market. The cotton, he said, was "fearful" of the foreign price would be the domestic price. Hence the only result would be to increase the price on cotton goods.

VEST IN OPPOSITION.

Mr. Vest said the amendment could be adopted, as it was in the line of procedure to make dissensions in the Democratic party. He claimed that the addition of the 20 per cent. provided in the bill would not affect the cotton trade.

He took issue with Mr. Bacon on the contention that the amendment was in line with the platform adopted at Chicago. "If," he said, "I had not been a member of the Senate, I would not have voted for it, because it is a bad amendment." He said it was a unanimous vote for duty on cotton.

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He expressed surprise at Mr. Bacon's statement that the cotton manufacturers needed assistance. He said it was generally understood that the cotton manufacturers were exceptionally prosperous.

In conclusion, Mr. Vest said that he had a southern Democrat always seated with him, and that cotton was admitted free of duty, as showing the Democratic consistency in supporting free raw materials. Hence his disappointment that this amendment should be proposed, as it would not only affect the cotton trade, but would justify and open the way for a duty on wool, lumber, and all other articles classed as raw materials. "Indeed," he exclaimed, "it leaves us naked before that amendment."

Mr. Vest, of Arkansas, also opposed the amendment, in an incisive speech. He agreed with Mr. Vest that the Republicans would support the amendment in the hope of creating discontent among the cotton-growers. He added that they also would support it for the purpose of securing an excuse for increased compensatory duties on cotton manufactures. He argued that the cotton trade could not affect the price of the entire domestic crop, and said that the duty would only add to the price of cotton goods. Mr. Jones said the cotton-growers would not be induced and deceived by a proposal so palpably thin as this.

Mr. Bacon answered briefly that if positive of asserting that a revenue duty would not affect cotton, then when the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Vest) would have his views prevail. But the Senate was a forum of argument, and not a court of justice, and the Senator's arguments were not to be given the weight of the Senate from Missouri, however long and eminent his services might be.

BACON RETREATED.

Mr. Bacon became impatient at one point over frequent interruptions, the last one coming from Mr. Caffery. "I think the Senator has enough to do to answer the questions addressed to him," he said, "but I will speak to him." From Massachusetts as to sugar," answered Mr. Bacon, sharply. The Senator went on to say that the objectionable feature of the tariff in the present bill was that it did not discriminate in favor of one part of the country against another part. But the Democratic platform, recognizing a revenue tariff, insisted that the tariff be applied equally in burden or benefit. This was the only "new evangel" to which the Senator from Missouri referred.

Mr. Vest and Mr. Bacon believed in a tariff for revenue only. Mr. Bacon answered that he believed in a tariff for revenue, but not for a tariff "for revenue only." He insisted that the ultimate form of the new tariff would be to restrict the power of the government to tax the people, and to impose a revenue tariff.

Transportation Lines Make Eight.

NORFOLK, VA., June 8.—(Special)—The transportation lines have begun their fight on the license recently imposed upon them by the City Council. The steamboat-men through Mr. Charles W. Pettit, proprietor, Petitt & Son, have granted an injunction by Judge Martin, of the Court of Law and Common Pleas, restraining the city of Norfolk from enacting the bill.

A little book describing all forms of stomach weakness and their cure mailed free by addressing the Stunt Company, of Marshall, Mich.

In referring, Mr. Bacon referred to statements that his tariff views were shaped by the interests of his own State. He was not, he said, indifferent to the fact that his people might be injured or injured by the character of the rates imposed.

It was recognized that the country was to have a revenue tariff bill, he intended to see it that his bill received as equal share of its benefits. The words in the Bill, the man who does not care for his own household is not an infant.

Mr. Stewart, of Nevada, created amazement by declaring that the hair-splitting and distinction between a revenue tariff and a protective tariff were all "twaddling."

He had followed this subject for thirty years, and he did not understand this new language relating to the tariff. The Georgia Senator (Mr. Bacon) was right, Mr. Stewart said, in saying that his State could receive the same benefits as other sections.

"WHAT ARE WE HERE FOR?"

"What are we here for?" asked Mr. Stewart, vehemently. "To get the offices," suggested some senator, popularly, in a stage whisper. "No, not all of us," continued Mr. Stewart. "We are here to represent our constituents and see that our State has equal rights under the tariff and all other laws."

Mr. Stewart insisted it was the true material of the old and West received equal treatment with the manufactured products of New England. The discussion had evidently aroused much feeling among senators, and this was given expression soon after Mr. Caffery's speech. He said the position of Mr. Bacon had been clearly expressed as one favorable to protection for the interests of his own State, with revenue as a mere incident.

"How about sugar?" inquired Mr. Bacon mockingly. Very deliberately Mr. Caffery answered: "Twice the Senator declined to answer my questions, and now I decline to permis-

"I accept that status between us," answered Mr. Bacon.

"You made the status yourself," said Mr. Caffery.

"It is very great deprivation," continued Mr. Bacon, in mocking tones, "but I will endeavor to bear it with equanimity."

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"Before we are out of the hole," interjected Mr. H. H. Hart.

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